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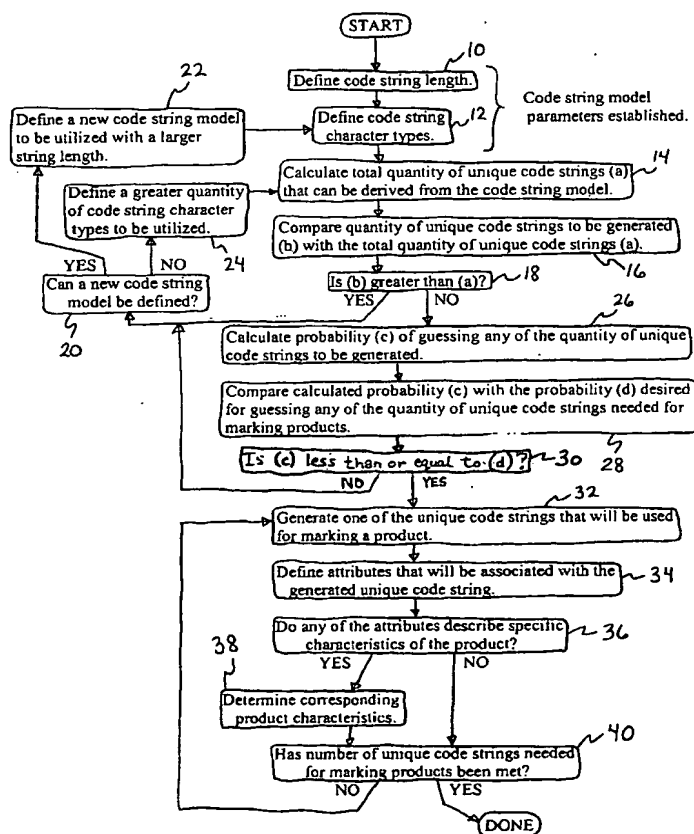
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(54) Title: AUTHENTICATION AND TRACKING SYSTEM



(57) Abstract: A subset of unique codes (64) is generated (32) from a set of codes. The subset of codes are stored (50) in a database on a secure server (68) and each of the codes (64) is marked on a corresponding instantiation (58) of the product. The marked instantiations (58) are distributed (62). During their distribution (62), the marked instantiations are verified (60) for authenticity and for routing. This verification is performed by reading or scanning (66) the codes (64) on the instantiations (58), and transmitting that information to the secure server (68) for comparison against the codes (64) and other information located in the database contained of the secure server (68).



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